



500.37149X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: S. MAEDA et al.
Serial No.: 09/294,137
Filed: April 20, 1999
For: DEFECT INSPECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS
Art Unit: 2621
Examiner: B. Werner

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Technology Center 2600

Box RCE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 19, 2003

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, the applicants hereby respectfully petition for an extension of time to permit filing a request for continued examination (RCE) within the second month subsequent to expiration of the two-month period for taking further action pursuant to the Notice of Appeal of October 15, 2002. Submitted herewith is a credit card payment form in payment of the fee of \$410.00 required for the requested extension of time.

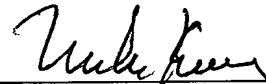
It is noted that the actual extended due date of February 15, 2003, for taking further action pursuant to the Notice of Appeal of October 15, 2002, was a Saturday; February 16, 2003, was a Sunday; Monday, February 17, 2003, was the Presidents' Day Federal Holiday on which the PTO was closed; and

Tuesday, February 18, 2003, was a snow emergency day on which the PTO was closed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the effective extended due date for taking further action pursuant to the Notice of Appeal of October 15, 2002, is today, Wednesday, February 19, 2003.

Please charge any shortage in fees to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.37149X00).

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Melvin Kraus
Registration No. 22,466

MK/RSS
(703) 312-6600